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2021 NORTON SOUND SALMON SEASON SUMMARY [REVISED]

COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY

Poor runs of chum and coho salmon resulted in the poorest commercial harvests of those species since the record low harvests of the early 2000s. The king and sockeye salmon runs, although not as poor as the chum and coho salmon runs, were lower than recent years. The pink salmon run was well below the record runs of the last 5 years, but the harvest was a record harvest for an odd-numbered year and the highest harvest in the 2000s and fifth highest harvest in the 61-year fishery history. The high pink harvest was because there were two buyers for the first time in 20 years interested in buying pink salmon.

Table 1 lists the 1961–2021 Norton Sound commercial salmon harvests. The combined commercial harvest of all salmon species was 303,999 fish and ranked third lowest in the last decade, but the eighth highest in the 2000s. There were 131 commercial gillnet permit holders that fished in 2021, slightly below the recent 5-year (140) average. The 2021 fishery value to the permit holders of \$451,815 was less than a quarter of the value of the fishery in the previous 5 years, but over 55% higher than last year. This year's higher value, compared to last year, was because of a market for pink salmon.

Table 2 lists the salmon harvests by species, number, and weight in each subdistrict in 2021. This year's 5.7 pound average weight for coho salmon was the same record low weight as last year. This is much smaller than the previous record low average weight of 6.4 pounds in 2019. Chum salmon had a record low weight of 5.5 pounds and the previous low weight was 6.4 pounds in 1969. However, the record low chum salmon weight this year was likely because there was only one chum salmon fishing period in July with gillnet mesh size restricted to 6 inches or less and there were over 30 pink salmon fishing periods in July with mesh size restricted to 4 ½ inches or less. Most of the chum salmon harvest this year occurred during the pink salmon fishing periods.

The coho salmon catch of 7,189 fish was 5% of the recent 5-year (141,864) average and just over 6% of the recent 10-year (112,578) average (Table 3). The coho salmon catch was the lowest since 2002 (1,759) and the second lowest in the last 40 years. The chum salmon catch of 6,410 fish was 5% of the recent 5-year (127,216) average and just over 5% of the recent 10-year (118,336) average

(Table 3). The chum salmon catch was the lowest since 2005 (3,983) and 3 other years in the early 2000s. There pink salmon catch was 289,912 fish and includes 28,769 fish caught in the experimental seine fishery (Table 4). The pink salmon catch was 95% of the total number of salmon caught in the Norton Sound (Figure 1).

Two salmon buyers operated in Norton Sound this year. The Unalakleet fish plant operated by Norton Sound Seafood Products (NSSP) was their base of commercial salmon fisheries operations. NSSP also processed some of the commercial catch at the NSSP plant in Nome and had a processing vessel during the pink salmon fishery in July. Icicle Seafoods, Inc. also operated a processing vessel, but only bought pink salmon during the fishery in July.

Under the authority of a commissioner's permit in 2021, an experimental purse seine fishery directed at pink salmon was implemented in Norton Sound Districts 4, 5, and 6. Ten percent of the pink salmon harvest was taken by purse seine and the harvest by district and period can be found in Table 4. Purse seine fishery openings were to gauge the effectiveness of purse seine gear in harvesting surplus pink salmon. A total of 11 purse seine fishing periods were announced. District 4 had 3 fishing periods and Districts 5 and 6 each had 4 fishing periods. Openings varied from 8 to 36 hours in duration. Stipulations on the commissioner's permit restricted the retention of king salmon and required that any inadvertent harvest of king salmon be donated to local villages. Also, the buyer agreed to donate any salmon other than pink salmon to local villages. Incidental harvest was minimal with no king salmon caught and 16 chum salmon caught that were donated. Pink salmon harvest was below expectations in the experimental fishery but can likely be improved through changes to fishing operations and fishing opportunity depending on future run size. Additional opportunity for fishing with purse seine gear would provide opportunity to refine techniques and identify locations where purse seine gear is most effective. The experimental fishery was successful in demonstrating that pink salmon can be harvested with purse seine gear while avoiding chum and king salmon, at least for comparable run sizes. There were no gear conflicts between the experimental fishery and existing fisheries reported.

Prices paid per pound in 2021 were \$3.00 for king salmon, \$2.40 for sockeye salmon, \$2.05 for coho salmon, \$0.95 for chum salmon, and \$0.20 for pink salmon. The king salmon price was the same as 2020 while sockeye salmon increased \$1.00 per pound, coho salmon increased \$0.28 per pound, chum salmon increased \$0.43 per pound, and pink salmon increased \$0.20 per pound.

SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHERY

Subsistence salmon fishers in the Port Clarence District and Subdistricts 1–3 (Nome, Golovin, and Elim) were required to possess a subsistence permit for each household that fished in these locations. The permits identify the type of gear used and the bag limit and are specific to each body of water. On each permit, the permit holder records the catch in numbers of fish and by species for each day fished. Subsistence permit applicants could apply online and print their permits, receive one at the Nome office, or call the Nome office to request a permit be mailed out.

The only places where there are limits on subsistence salmon harvest are in the Nome Subdistrict and Pilgrim River and Salmon Lake in the Port Clarence District. Subsistence permits are important to management because they identify users and harvests, but the actual catch information cannot be

compiled until well after the season when the permits are returned. In southern Norton Sound, villages are surveyed to estimate the subsistence harvest and likewise this information is not available until well after the season

SEASON SUMMARY BY SUBDISTRICT

Nome - Subdistrict 1

This was the ninth consecutive season that commercial fishing was allowed in Subdistrict 1 since the mid-90s. There were 7 permit holders that fished in 2021, the same as in 2018 and 2019, but down from 12 permit holders that fished last year.

The pink salmon was average for an odd-numbered year but well below the record runs in 2017 and 2019. Sockeye, chum and coho salmon runs were below average to well below average when compared to recent years. There were only four commercial salmon fishing periods targeting coho salmon this year and the season's catch was 408 coho salmon (Table 2). The catch was well below the record catches of the last four years that ranged from 6,000 to 9,000 coho salmon.

High water limited weir operations this year. Of the three chum salmon escapement goal ranges only Eldorado River surpassed the low end of the goal of 4,400–14,200 chum salmon with 6,283 chum salmon counted through the weir (Table 5). Both Nome River and Snake River weirs were flooded out in late July, but chum salmon passages by that date were some of the lowest on record. The pink salmon passage of 4,615 fish at Nome River by late July was above the odd-numbered year escapement goal of 3,200 fish.

Golovin - Subdistrict 2

Subdistrict 2 had one chum salmon, seven pink salmon, and five coho salmon commercial fishing periods. The chum and coho salmon fishing periods were 24 hours in length and the pink salmon fishing periods ranged from 8 to 24 hours in length. The 11 permit holders that fished this year were less than the 17 to 18 permit holders that fished the last several years. The commercial catch was 1 king; 142 sockeye; 3,515 chum salmon; 18,395 pink salmon; and 707 coho salmon (Table 2). The harvest for all salmon except for pink salmon was well below average compared to recent years. Although the pink salmon run was well below the record runs of the last five years the pink salmon harvest was the highest since 2012 because of buyer interest in pink salmon this year.

The Fish River counting tower was unable to operate this year because of high water. High water also prevented an aerial survey of the Niukluk River and Ophir Creek to determine if the coho salmon aerial survey goal had been reached.

Elim - Subdistrict 3

Commercial fishing in Subdistrict 3 was limited to pink salmon and coho salmon fishing periods this year. There were 9 pink salmon fishing periods ranging from 8 to 24 hours in length and there were 4 coho salmon fishing periods of 24 hours in duration. The 18 permit holders that fished this year

was the first time the number or permit holders fishing was below 25 since 2013. The salmon harvest was 7,978 fish (Table 2), and although this was twice the harvest of last year, it was well below the recent 5-year average of more than 40,000 salmon. The pink salmon harvest of 6,601 fish was much poorer than expected and the coho salmon harvest of 883 fish, although just above 857 coho salmon harvested last year, was the second lowest in over 30 years when commercial fishing did occur.

The Kwiniuk River tower, which began in 1965, is the longest running escapement project in Norton Sound. Escapement counts were 219 king, 3,681 chum, 56,724 pink, 72 sockeye, and 1,347 coho salmon (Table 5). King salmon passage was below the escapement goal of 250 fish and chum salmon passage was below the escapement goal range of 9,100–32,600 fish for the second year in a row. High water prevented counting for nearly one month from July 28 through August 24 and an estimated one-quarter of the pink salmon run and three-quarters of coho salmon run likely passed without being counted during that time. However, the pink salmon escapement goal of 8,400 fish was easily reached and the escapement was above most odd-numbered years. The coho salmon aerial survey goal of 650–1,300 fish was likely met based on the tower count and the estimated passage that was not counted, however no survey was flown because of poor weather conditions and aircraft availability.

Norton Bay - Subdistrict 4

Commercial fishing in Subdistrict 4 was limited to fishing periods that were directed at pink and coho salmon. There were 3 coho salmon gillnet fishing periods of 24 hours in length and 7 pink salmon gillnet fishing periods that ranged from 8 to 24 hours in length. There were 3 experimental purse seine openings that ranged from 8 hours to 32 hours in length. Catches were poor throughout the season. The commercial harvest was 8 sockeye, 61 chum, 14,190 pink and 166 coho salmon (Table 2). The 14,190 pink salmon harvest includes 5,662 fish harvested during one period in the seine fishery (Table 4).

There were 7 gillnet permit holders that fished and that was the same number of permit holders that fished last year. There were 2 experimental seine permit holders that fished. The chum and coho salmon harvests were the lowest harvest since commercial fishing resumed in 2008. The pink salmon gillnet harvest was the fourth highest harvest since 2008 as was the combined gillnet and seine harvest.

A counting tower on the Ungalik River was operated by Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) for the third consecutive year. High water resulted in the project ending early, but the pink salmon escapement was over 600,000 fish and the chum salmon escapement of over 16,000 fish was the highest in project history (Table 5). The Inglutalik River tower project also operated by NSEDC ended early and both the pink salmon and chum salmon escapements were much lower than Ungalik River.

Shaktoolik and Unalakleet - Subdistricts 5 and 6

Both the Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts share a common commercial fishing boundary and management actions typically encompass both subdistricts because salmon tend to intermingle and the harvest in one subdistrict affects the movement of fish in the adjacent subdistrict.

Commercial fishing was limited to pink salmon and coho salmon fishing periods this year. There were 9 pink salmon gillnet fishing periods in Shaktoolik and there were 10 pink salmon gillnet fishing periods in Unalakleet ranging from 8 hours to 48 hours in both subdistricts. There were 5 coho salmon gillnet fishing periods of 24 hours in length in both subdistricts. There were 4 experimental purse seine fishing periods in Shaktoolik that ranged from 8 to 36 hours in length and there were 4 experimental purse seine fishing periods in Unalakleet that ranged from 8 to 24 hours in duration (Table 4).

There were 26 gillnet permit holders that fished in the Shaktoolik District and that was one less than fished last year. In Unalakleet there were 63 gillnet permit holders and that was 8 more than fished last year. Two experimental purse seine permit holders fished in Shaktoolik, and one experimental purse seine permit holder fished in Unalakleet.

Pink salmon catches were above average in both subdistricts and other salmon catches were below average. The Shaktoolik pink salmon catch was 80,735 fish of which 5,270 pink salmon were caught during one seine fishing period. In Unalakleet the pink salmon catch was 169,991 fish of which 17,832 pink salmon were caught during one seine fishing period. The Shaktoolik pink salmon gillnet harvest was the fourth highest harvest on record. The Unalakleet pink salmon gillnet harvest was the third highest harvest on record.

The Shaktoolik chum salmon catch of 1,237 fish (Table 2) was the lowest since the early 2000s and the coho salmon catch of 2,593 fish although better than last year was the fifth lowest in over 40 years. The Unalakleet chum salmon catch of 895 fish was the lowest since 2002 and the second lowest catch on record. The Unalakleet coho salmon catch of 2,432 fish was better than last year but was the sixth lowest catch on record.

High water delayed the operation of the Unalakleet River floating weir and the North River counting tower. The Unalakleet River weir became operational on June 30 and the North River tower became operational on July 8. The Shaktoolik River counting tower was operational on June 23. All escapement counting projects were knocked out by high water the last week of July. The chum salmon escapements were well below average at all the projects. The pink salmon escapement at North River tower was fourth highest for an odd-numbered year since 1997. At Unalakleet River weir the picket spacing now allows pink salmon to pass through without being counted and at Shaktoolik River the pink salmon escapement was near the median in eight years of counts.

The North River king salmon escapement of 825 fish was below the low end of the escapement goal range of 1,200–2,600 fish (Table 5) for the second year in a row.

Port Clarence District

Port Clarence District is the salmon district immediately to the northwest of the Norton Sound District and it has the largest run of sockeye salmon in Norton Sound. However, this year the

sockeye salmon run was below average for the second year in a row, and for the first time since 2014 that the department closed subsistence net fishing on the Pilgrim River.

Sockeye salmon return to Salmon Lake via Pilgrim River which is easily accessible by a road from Nome. Permits have been required for subsistence salmon fishing in Pilgrim River since 1964. Each year, the subsistence catch seasonal limit starts at 25 sockeye salmon and often the department will raise the limit because of runs well above escapement needs. Most of the subsistence harvest of sockeye salmon in the Pilgrim River has been by seine. All net fishing was closed on July 22 because sockeye passage was decreasing daily and less than half the low end of the escapement goal range (6,800–36,000) had been reached.

At the Pilgrim River weir, all salmon species escapement counts were below almost all previous years since the project began in 2003. High water prevented counting for 11 days from July 29 through August 8 and the project was pulled on August 13. Cumulative escapement counts were 13 king, 2,618 chum, 749 pink, 3,721 sockeye and 59 coho salmon (Table 5).

ESCAPEMENT

Table 5 summarizes escapement assessments for the major index river systems of the Norton Sound and Port Clarence Districts in 2021. These assessments were often qualitative and relative to historical escapement sizes. High water prevented salmon runs from being fully counted and few escapement goal ranges were likely reached for salmon other than pink salmon.

Department salmon counting projects in Norton Sound in 2021 included a counting tower on the Kwiniuk River and weirs on the Nome River and Solomon River. The Unalakleet River weir is cooperative project between the department and NSEDC with funding from Untied States Fish and Wildlife Service - Office of Subsistence Management. Seven additional salmon counting projects were also operated this season. The Eldorado, Snake and Pilgrim Rivers had weir projects and the Inglutalik, North, Shaktoolik and Ungalik Rivers had counting towers that are operated by NSEDC.

There were few aerial surveys this year because of limited aircraft availability and high-water conditions.

Table 1. Norton Sound Salmon Catch and Dollar Value, 1961-2021.

| Year | Total | Number of | Gross Value of |
|------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|
| | Catch | Permits | Catch to Permit Holders |
| 1961 | 101,711 | a | |
| 1962 | 232,431 | a | \$105,800 |
| 1963 | 224,378 | a | \$104,000 |
| 1964 | 164,671 | a | \$51,000 |
| 1965 | 39,203 | a | \$21,483 |
| 1966 | 100,345 | a | \$68,000 |
| 1967 | 74,818 | a | \$44,038 |
| 1968 | 124,409 | a | \$63,700 |
| 1969 | 178,972 | a | \$95,297 |
| 1970 | 178,218 | a | \$99,019 |
| 1971 | 141,977 | a | \$101,000 |
| 1972 | 149,494 | a | \$102,225 |
| 1973 | 176,797 | a | \$308,740 |
| 1974 | 315,829 | a | \$437,127 |
| 1975 | 251,861 | a | \$413,255 |
| 1976 | 193,063 | a | \$285,283 |
| 1977 | 257,325 | 164 | \$546,010 |
| 1978 | 531,948 | 176 | \$907,330 |
| 1979 | 350,401 | 175 | \$878,792 |
| 1980 | 444,337 | 159 | \$572,125 |
| 1981 | 441,734 | 167 | \$761,658 |
| 1982 | 511,208 | 164 | \$1,069,723 |
| 1983 | 456,420 | 170 | \$946,232 |
| 1984 | 342,159 | 141 | \$738,064 |
| 1985 | 180,200 | 155 | \$818,477 |
| 1986 | 230,400 | 163 | \$546,452 |
| 1987 | 136,283 | 164 | \$517,894 |
| 1988 | 225,132 | 152 | \$760,641 |
| 1989 | 92,811 | 110 | \$319,489 |
| 1990 | 131,665 | 128 | \$474,064 |
| 1991 | 156,789 | 126 | \$413,479 |
| 1992 | 199,933 | 110 | \$448,395 |
| 1993 | 263,670 | 153 | \$368,723 |
| 1994 | 1,108,184 | 119 | \$863,060 |
| 1995 | 181,393 | 105 | \$356,164 |
| 1996 | 571,241 | 86 | \$340,347 |
| 1997 | 79,141 | 102 | \$363,908 |
| 1998 | 641,396 | 82 | \$358,982 |
| 1999 | 23,051 | 60 | \$76,860 |
| 2000 | 217,873 | 79 | \$149,907 |
| 2001 | 30,849 | 51 | \$56,921 |
| 2001 | 2,365 | 12 | \$2,941 |
| 2002 | 20,653 | 30 | \$64,473 |
| 2003 | 48,381 | 36 | \$122,506 |
| 2004 | 89,669 | 40 | \$296,154 |

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| Year | Total | Number of | Gross Value of |
|---------|---------|-----------|-------------------------|
| | Catch | Permits | Catch to Permit Holders |
| 2006 | 140,873 | 61 | \$389,707 |
| 2007 | 152,357 | 71 | \$572,195 |
| 2008 | 221,101 | 91 | \$759,451 |
| 2009 | 138,737 | 88 | \$722,167 |
| 2010 | 211,622 | 115 | \$1,220,487 |
| 2011 | 177,167 | 123 | \$1,269,730 |
| 2012 | 305,657 | 123 | \$758,908 |
| 2013 | 181,247 | 124 | \$1,183,236 |
| 2014 | 403,715 | 128 | \$1,915,749 |
| 2015 | 369,720 | 128 | \$1,940,408 |
| 2016 | 366,236 | 141 | \$1,237,229 |
| 2017 | 378,561 | 139 | \$2,788,316 |
| 2018 | 543,714 | 149 | \$4,001,400 |
| 2019 | 381,124 | 145 | \$2,078,034 |
| 2020 | 50,679 | 124 | \$290,302 |
| 2021 | 303,999 | 131 | \$451,815 |
| 5-year | _ | _ | _ |
| avg. b | 344,063 | 140 | 2,079,056 |
| 10-year | _ | _ | _ |
| avg. c | 315,782 | 132 | \$1,746,331 |

^a Information not available.

b 2016-2020.

c 2011-2020.

Table 2.-Norton Sound commercial salmon harvest summary by subdistrict, 2021.

| | | Subdistricts | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Total |
| Number o | f Permit Holders | 7 | 11 | 18 | 9 | 26 | 63 | 131 |
| King | Number | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 15 |
| | Weight (lbs) | 12 | 7 | 10 | | 54 | 86 | 169 |
| Sockeye | Number | 26 | 142 | 41 | 8 | 150 | 106 | 473 |
| | Weight (lbs) | 148 | 703 | 225 | 46 | 772 | 556 | 2,450 |
| Coho | Number | 408 | 707 | 883 | 166 | 2,593 | 2,432 | 7,189 |
| | Weight (lbs) | 2,406 | 4,259 | 5,167 | 1,005 | 14,852 | 13,509 | 41,198 |
| Pink | Number | 0 | 18,395 | 6,601 | 14,190 | 80,735 | 169,991 | 289,912 |
| | Weight (lbs) | | 38,867 | 15,490 | 37,148 | 217,113 | 493,369 | 801,987 |
| Chum | Number | 250 | 3,515 | 452 | 61 | 1,237 | 895 | 6,410 |
| | Weight (lbs) | 1,483 | 18,562 | 2,255 | 347 | 7,225 | 5,085 | 34,957 |
| Total ^b | Number | 686 | 22,760 | 7,978 | 14,425 | 84,720 | 173,430 | 303,999 |
| | Weight (lbs) | 4,049 | 62,398 | 23,147 | 38,546 | 240,016 | 512,605 | 880,761 |

^a Total number of permit holders is not the sum of permit holders in each subdistrict because some permit holders fished in more than one subdistrict.

^b Total does not include 2 kings, 31 sockeyes, 20 cohos, 124 pinks and 36 chums retained for personal use.

Table 3. Norton Sound Salmon Catch, 1961-2021.

| 1961 5,300 35 13,807 34,237 44 1962 7,286 18 9,156 33,187 18 1963 6,613 71 16,765 46,180 15 | num Total 8,332 101,711 2,784 232,431 4,749 224,378 8,862 164,671 6,795 39,203 0,245 100,345 |
|---|--|
| 1961 5,300 35 13,807 34,237 4 1962 7,286 18 9,156 33,187 18 1963 6,613 71 16,765 46,180 15 | 2,784 232,431 4,749 224,378 8,862 164,671 6,795 39,203 |
| 1963 6,613 71 16,765 46,180 15 | 4,749 224,378 8,862 164,671 6,795 39,203 |
| | 8,862 164,671 6,795 39,203 |
| 1964 2.018 126 98 13.567 14 | 6,795 39,203 |
| 1,010 120 ,001 13,507 11 | |
| 1965 128 30 2,030 220 3 | 0,245 100,345 |
| 1966 1,553 14 5,755 12,778 8 | |
| | 1,756 74,818 |
| | 5,300 124,409 |
| | 2,795 178,972 |
| | 7,034 178,218 |
| | 1,362 141,977 |
| | 0,920 149,494 |
| | 9,098 176,797 |
| | 2,267 315,829 |
| | 2,485 251,861 |
| | 5,956 193,063 |
| | 0,455 257,325 |
| | 9,279 531,948 |
| | 0,789 350,401 |
| | 0,792 444,337 |
| | 9,708 441,734 |
| | 3,335 511,208 |
| | 9,437 456,420 |
| | 6,442 342,159 |
| | 4,928 180,200 |
| | 6,912 230,400 |
| | 2,457 136,283 |
| | 7,966 225,132 |
| | 2,625 92,811 |
| | 5,123 131,665 |
| | 6,871 156,789 |
| | 3,394 199,933 |
| | 3,562 263,670 |
| | 8,290 1,108,184 |
| | 2,898 181,393 |
| | 0,609 571,241 |
| | 4,103 79,141 |
| | 6,324 641,396 |
| | 7,881 23,051 |
| | 6,150 217,873 |
| | 1,100 30,849 |
| 2002 5 1 1,759 0 | 600 2,365 |
| | 3,560 20,653 |
| | 6,296 48,381 |
| | 3,983 89,669 |

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| Year | Ki | ng | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum | Total |
|------------------------------|------------|-----|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2006 | | 20 | 3 | 130,808 | 0 | 10,042 | 140,873 |
| 2007 | | 19 | 2 | 126,136 | 3,769 | 22,431 | 152,357 |
| 2008 | | 83 | 60 | 120,309 | 75,525 | 25,124 | 221,101 |
| 2009 | | 84 | 126 | 87,041 | 17,364 | 34,122 | 138,737 |
| 2010 | | 140 | 103 | 62,079 | 31,557 | 117,743 | 211,622 |
| 2011 | | 185 | 369 | 58,917 | 7,141 | 110,555 | 177,167 |
| 2012 | | 197 | 134 | 37,056 | 205,498 | 62,772 | 305,657 |
| 2013 | | 151 | 247 | 53,802 | 8,338 | 118,709 | 181,247 |
| 2014 | | 289 | 519 | 112,756 | 182,406 | 107,745 | 403,715 |
| 2015 | 1, | 288 | 4,119 | 153,928 | 62,888 | 147,497 | 369,720 |
| 2016 | | 321 | 2,888 | 102,890 | 208,961 | 51,176 | 366,236 |
| 2017 | | 538 | 2,975 | 191,254 | 20,321 | 163,473 | 378,561 |
| 2018 | | 906 | 3,623 | 260,707 | 40,449 | 238,029 | 543,714 |
| 2019 | 1, | 371 | 6,969 | 139,820 | 75,929 | 157,035 | 381,124 |
| 2020 | | 906 | 1,808 | 14,650 | 6,950 | 26,365 | 50,679 |
| 2021 | | 15 | 473 | 7,189 | 289,912 | 6,410 | 303,999 |
| 5-year | _ | | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| avg. a | * 8 | 808 | 3,653 | 141,864 | 70,522 | 127,216 | 344,063 |
| 10-year avg. ^b | • | 515 | 2,365 | 112,578 | 81,888 | 118,336 | 315,782 |

a 2016-2020

b 2011-2020

Table 4. – Number of fish harvested in Norton Sound by Subdistrict and period with purse seine gear 2021.

| | | | | | Harvest | | |
|---------------------------|--------|-------|------|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Subdistrict | Period | Hours | King | Sockeye | Coho | Pink | Chum |
| 4 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 3 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,662 | 0 |
| | Total | 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,662 | 0 |
| 5 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,270 | 0 |
| | 3 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 4 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | 90 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,270 | 0 |
| 6 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17,837 | 0 |
| | 3 | 24 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 4 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17,837 | 0 |
| Total Purse Seine Harvest | | est | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28,769 | 0 |

^a Total does not include 16 chum salmon caught in Subdistrict 4 donated for personal use.

Table 5.—Salmon counts of rivers and associated salmon escapement goal ranges Norton Sound and Port Clarence Districts, 2021.

| - | | King Salmon | | | Chum Salmon | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------|---------|--------|----------------|---------|--|--|
| _ | Weir/ | Escapement | Aerial | Weir/ | Escapement | Aerial | | |
| | Tower | Goal | Survey | Tower | Goal | Survey | | |
| Stream | Count | Range | Count a | Count | Range | Count a | | |
| Salmon L. | | | | | | | | |
| Grand Central R. | | | | | | | | |
| Pilgrim R. | 13 | | | 2,618 | | | | |
| Glacial L. | | | | | | | | |
| Sinuk R. | | | | | | | | |
| Cripple R. | | | | | | | | |
| Penny R. | | | | | | | | |
| Anvil Creek | | | | | | | | |
| Snake R. | 5 | | | 619 | 2,000 - 4,200 | | | |
| Nome R. | 2 | | | 216 | 1,600 - 5,300 | | | |
| Flambeau R. | | | | | | | | |
| Eldorado R. | 15 | | | 6,283 | 4,400 - 14,200 | | | |
| Bonanza R. | | | | | | | | |
| Solomon R. | 3 | | | 90 | | | | |
| Fish R. | | | | | | | | |
| Boston Cr. | | | | | | | | |
| Niukluk R. | | | | | | | | |
| Ophir Cr. | | | | | | | | |
| Kwiniuk R. | 219 | 250 | | 3,681 | 9,100 - 32,600 | | | |
| Tubutulik R. | | | | | 3,100 - 9,900 | | | |
| Ungalik R. | 321 | | | 16,132 | | | | |
| Inglutalik R. | 252 | | | 3,123 | | | | |
| Shaktoolik R. | 933 | | | 8,706 | | | | |
| Unalakleet R. | 497 | | | 14,410 | | | | |
| Old Woman R. | | | | | | | | |
| North R. | 825 | 1,200-2,600 | | 804 | | | | |

-Continued-

Table 5.—Page 2 of 2.

| | Coho Salmon | | | S | ockeye Salmo | n | Pir | ık Salmon | |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------|------------|-------|--------------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|
| | Weir/ | Aerial | Escapement | Weir/ | Escapement | Aerial | Weir/ Es | capement | Aerial |
| | Tower | Survey | Goal | Tower | Goal | Survey | Tower | Goal | Survey |
| Stream | Count | Count a | Range | Count | Range | Count a | Count | Range | Count a |
| Salmon L. | | | | | | | | | |
| Grand Central R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Pilgrim R. | 59 | | | 3,721 | 6,800-36,000 | | 749 | | |
| Glacial L. | | | | | 800 - 1,600 | | | | |
| Sinuk R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Cripple R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Penny R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Anvil Creek | | | | | | | | | |
| Snake R. | 79 | 885 | | 62 | | 337 | 5,275 | | |
| Nome R. | 1 | 378 | | 6 | | 61 | 4,615 | 3,200 | |
| Flambeau R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Eldorado R. ^b | 10 | | | 52 | | | 5,467 | | |
| Bonanza R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Solomon R. | 5 | | | 0 | | | 3,605 | | |
| Fish R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Boston Cr. | | | | | | | | | |
| Niukluk R. | | | Combined | | | | | | |
| Ophir Cr. | | | 750-1,600 | | | | | | |
| Kwiniuk R. | 1,347 | | 650-1,300 | 72 | | | 56,724 | 8,400 | |
| Tubutulik R. | | | | | | | | | |
| Ungalik R. | 3 | | | 4,413 | | | 618,721 | | |
| Inglutalik R | 10 | | | 52 | | | 207,654 | | |
| Shaktoolik R. | 579 | | | 99 | | | 701,982 | | |
| Unalakleet R. | 1,680 | | | 1,311 | | | | | |
| Old Woman R. | | | | | | | | | |
| North R. | 204 | | 550-1,100 | 6 | | | 351,732 | 25,000 | |

Note: Data not available for all streams. Sustainable escapement goal (SEG) and optimal escapement goal (OEG) are listed.

^a All aerial surveys are rated fair to good, unless otherwise noted.

Figure 1. Number of salmon caught by year in Norton Sound.

